

# SENATE BILL 867

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By: **Senator Conway**

Introduced and read first time: February 3, 2012

Assigned to: Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

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## A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **State Department of Education – Oral Health Education – Certification and**  
3 **Monitoring**

4 FOR the purpose of requiring certain county superintendents to make certain  
5 certifications regarding oral health education on or before a certain date each  
6 year; requiring the State Department of Education to support and facilitate  
7 certain education and develop a process to monitor certain implementation of  
8 certain education; requiring the Department to report certain information to the  
9 Governor and General Assembly on or before a certain date each year; and  
10 generally relating to oral health education in the State.

11 BY adding to

12 Article – Education

13 Section 4–111.1

14 Annotated Code of Maryland

15 (2008 Replacement Volume and 2011 Supplement)

16 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

17 Article – Education

18 Section 7–401(a)

19 Annotated Code of Maryland

20 (2008 Replacement Volume and 2011 Supplement)

21 Preamble

22 WHEREAS, Tooth decay is the single most common chronic childhood disease  
23 and over 50% of children aged 5 to 9 years old have at least one cavity or filling; and

24 WHEREAS, Pain and suffering due to untreated dental diseases can lead to  
25 problems eating, speaking, and attending to learning; and

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EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 WHEREAS, Safe and effective measures exist to prevent the most common  
2 dental diseases such as tooth decay and periodontal diseases; now, therefore,

3 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF  
4 MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

5 **Article – Education**

6 **4–111.1.**

7 **(A) IN ADDITION TO THE REQUIREMENTS OF § 7–401 OF THIS ARTICLE,**  
8 **ON OR BEFORE SEPTEMBER 1 OF EACH YEAR, EACH COUNTY SUPERINTENDENT**  
9 **SHALL CERTIFY TO THE STATE SUPERINTENDENT THAT ORAL HEALTH**  
10 **EDUCATION, INCLUDING ORAL DISEASE PREVENTION AND DENTAL HEALTH**  
11 **PROMOTION, IS BEING TAUGHT IN THE COUNTY.**

12 **(B) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL:**

13 **(1) SUPPORT AND FACILITATE ORAL HEALTH EDUCATION IN**  
14 **EVERY COUNTY; AND**

15 **(2) DEVELOP A PROCESS TO MONITOR IMPLEMENTATION OF**  
16 **ORAL HEALTH EDUCATION AS CERTIFIED UNDER SUBSECTION (A) OF THIS**  
17 **SECTION.**

18 **(C) ON OR BEFORE DECEMBER 1 OF EACH YEAR, THE DEPARTMENT**  
19 **SHALL REPORT TO THE GOVERNOR AND, SUBJECT TO § 2–1246 OF THE STATE**  
20 **GOVERNMENT ARTICLE, THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY, REGARDING THE**  
21 **MONITORING AND IMPLEMENTATION OF ORAL HEALTH EDUCATION IN THE**  
22 **STATE.**

23 **7–401.**

24 **(a) With the assistance of the county health department, each county board**  
25 **shall provide:**

26 **(1) Adequate school health services;**

27 **(2) Instruction in health education, including the importance of**  
28 **physical activity, ORAL DISEASE PREVENTION, AND DENTAL HEALTH PROMOTION**  
29 **in maintaining good health; and**

30 **(3) A healthful school environment.**

1           SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
2    July 1, 2012.